

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1917

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 2746

FOR ANDREWS FROM WILGIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

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1. TRADE AGREEMENT: AS YOU KNOW, WE EXCHANGED NOTES BRINGING THE TRADE AGREEMENT INTO FORCE ON JULY 7. THE HUNGARIANS HANDLED THE SITUATION WELL, WITH A SMALL, CORDIAL CEREMONY AT THE MFA GUEST HOUSE WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER, THE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER, THE HUNGARIAN NEGOTIATING TEAM, AND EMBASSY PERSONNEL. THIS CEREMONY WAS AN EXCEPTION TO NORMAL HUNGARIAN PRACTICE, AS WAS THE PUBLICITY WHICH THE EVENT RECEIVED IN THE PRESS, RADIO, AND TV. WE WERE ABLE TO INCLUDE PAUL MILLER OF THE EATON CORP WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF YOUR 169692, THE AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN INVITED BY THE HUNGARIANS TO DINNER WITH MILLER THE EVENING OF JULY 7. WE WILL REPORT THE EATON-RABA CONTRACT BY SEPTEL.

2. JULY 4: WE HAD A GOOD TURNOUT FOR JULY 4 THIS YEAR, SOME 450 PERSONS FROM ALL SECTORS OF HUNGARIAN LIFE. THE COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY AND THE PRESS WERE PARTICULARLY WELL REPRESENTED. WE HAD ONE DISAPPOINTMENT: THE RANKING HUNGARIAN REPRESENTATIVE WAS MINISTER PULLAI, WHICH CONFORMED TO THE GOH PRACTICE OF SENDING ONE MINISTER TO EACH WESTERN NATIONAL DAY. PUJA WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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VISITING AUSTRIA. IF HE HAD BEEN IN TOWN, WE BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE ATTENDED IN ADDITION TO PULLAI. NEVERTHELESS, WE THOUGHT THAT IN THIS YEAR OF SO MUCH PROGRESS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS THAT THE HUNGARIANS SHOULD HAVE SENT A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER. WE REGISTERED OUR DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE HUNGARIANS.

3. GILMORE: HARRY GILMORE WAS HERE JULY 5-7 FOR A VERY USEFUL

VISIT. WE BRIEFED HIM ON THE ISSUES WHICH NEED IMPLEMENTATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WE HAD LUNCH WITH HAJDU, THE NEW HUNGARIAN DCM IN WASHINGTON AND A VERY FRIENDLY MEETING WITH BARTHA. HE ALSO ATTENDED THE JULY 7 CEREMONY AND THUS HAD A CHANCE TO MEET PUJA, BIRO, FEKETE, ANTALPETER, AND OTHERS. WE GOT HIS CZECH VISA AT THE LAST MOMENT AND SENT HIM OFF TO PRAGUE WITH OUR BEST WISHES.

4. NAGY VISIT. THE AMBASSADOR MET NAGY ON HIS ARRIVAL IN BUDAPEST AND FOUND HIM TO BE WELL PLEASED WITH HIS DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON. WE APPRECIATE YOUR ARRANGING SUCH AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM AS WELL AS THE REPORTS OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WHICH WE ARE RECEIVING. IT LOOKS AS IF WE WILL BE SPENDING SOME TIME CONSULTING DURING THE FALL AND WINTER ON CSCE. THIS IS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE.

5. POSTAL AGREEMENTS: THE MINISTRY OF POSTS (DR. LASZLO KATONA KIS) HAS APPROACHED US FOR ASSISTANCE IN RENEWING TWO MINOR AGREEMENTS WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. KATONA KIS WROTE MR. EDGAR STOCK, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL POSTAL AFFAIRS, U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, ON FEB 22, 1978, PROPOSING RENEWAL OF THE FOLLOWING TWO AGREEMENTS:

A. AGREEMENT FOR THE EXCHANGE OF MONEY ORDERS (1922).

B. PARCEL POST AGREEMENT (1928).

THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE HAS NOT REPLIED, AND THE HUNGARIANS HAVE SOUGHT OUR ASSISTANCE IN GETTING A REPLY. KATONA KIS BROUGHT CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS MATTER UP WITH RUTH PHILLIPS AT AN ITU MEETING IN GENEVA THIS SPRING. MAYBE RUTH COULD HELP YOU GET A REPLY. IF THE REPLY IS FAVORABLE, THE HUNGARIANS WOULD LIKE TO SEND THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR POSTAL AFFAIRS (DEZSO HORN) TO WASHINGTON THIS FALL TO SIGN THE TWO AGREEMENTS.

6. HARRIMAN VISIT: BARTHA IS PRESSING US FOR THE BIOGRAPHIES OF THE HARRIMAN PARTY. IF YOU COULD SEND THEM OUT QUICKLY IT WOULD HELP US PUT TOGETHER A BETTER PROGRAM. WHILE THERE ARE STILL SOME DETAILS TO BE ARRANGED, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE VISIT WILL GO WELL.

7. CHARLES GATI: GATI HAS HAD A USEFUL VISIT TO BUDAPEST, EVEN IF HE DID NOT RECEIVE ALL THE HIGH-LEVEL APPOINTMENTS WHICH HE HAD REQUESTED. WE HAD SEVERAL USEFUL CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM. HE HAD TOLD US ISTVAN DEAK WAS RECENTLY REFUSED A VISA BY THE GOH AND THAT BRZEZINSKI IS UNHAPPY ABOUT THIS. COULD YOU CHECK WITH DEAK AND ASCERTAIN WHAT THE SITUATION IS? KAISER

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